A Note From our Community Assistant

Dear 4-H Community,

It is with mixed emotions that I send this note to inform you that I will be leaving my position as the Community Assistant here in Passaic County 4-H. My last day of work is Thursday August 15th. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the support and guidance you have provided me during my time with Passaic County 4-H. I have learned a great deal from you all and I will miss the excitement and enthusiasm that always comes when working with the 4-H community! Best wishes to all of you and thanks again for everything!

Sincerely,
Karen Ector

A Note From Marycarmen

It’s the middle of August and the end of summer will be upon us soon, and Fall is right around the corner. Summer can be a busy time in the 4-H office, but Fall brings us to our busiest season of all. With September starts the new school year and the new club year.

This week I am sad to say that Karen Ector, our 4-H Community Assistant will be leaving us. I am sad to see Karen go but have truly enjoyed working with her during her time with Passaic County 4-H. I know she will continue to find success and happiness in her future endeavors.

This September you will find the 4-H Office in our new location—moving to the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office in Wayne, Route 23 North.

Also in September we will be holding our Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser. Don’t forget to sell tickets to club members, family and friends. Additional tickets are available at the 4-H office. We will also need older teen and adult volunteers from each club to assist on this day.

West Milford Autumn Lights Festival, our 4-H Fair will be here before we know it, clubs should be working on club exhibits (including club posters) and educational displays for our fair visitors. Remember items to be exhibited need to have been created anytime between October 2012 (after fair) and October 2013 (before fair). Please make sure to have exhibit entry forms submitted to the 4-H office on time. This also includes any animals you will be bringing with you on this day. Please review the fair exhibit guide for specifics about an entry.

I am looking forward to a new year filled with lots of fun and excitement!!
Club Reminders

4-H Fair Exhibits:
- Exhibits must result from work completed after last year’s Fair (Oct. 2012) and must be the work of the 4-H club member with little help from an adult. Exhibits can be a result of club work or individual work including school assignments.
- Exhibit Entry Forms are due to club leaders on September 25th.

Club Leaders Don’t Forget:
- In September have all current club members complete their re-enrollment forms
- New club members should complete New Member Registration Forms

Active Membership Requirements:
- Attend 70% of all club meetings for the year
- Complete a Record Book
- Complete one Public Presentation (at club or county level)
- Participate in one 4-H Community Service Project

2013 NJ 4-H Food and Fitness Training

This June, NJ 4-H hosted a statewide Food and Fitness Health Ambassador training in East Windsor. Supported by a grant from National 4-H and the Wal-Mart Foundation. This two day training brought together forty youth from # Counties across the state of NJ. Teens spent the weekend learning the NJ 4-H Get Moving Get Healthy Curriculum along with other healthy lifestyle activities. During the training the youth learned how to make healthy snacks, played physically active games, created videos about the importance of healthy eating, and shared their experience through Twitter. The newly trained Food and Fitness Ambassadors, are now back in their respective counties teaching others about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. Two students from Passaic County joined us for the weekend to become health ambassadors for their school. Checkout some photos and clips from the training on twitter @health_ambNJ, also feel free to share your health tips, healthy recipes and fun physical activities using the hashtag #NJ4HGMGH.

“The first wealth is health” — Ralph Waldo Emerson
The Velveteens are on a roll! Brendan has really led the way with respect to his desire to own a few chickens of his own. His hard work and our civics lessons over the year, backed by the entire club, are about to pay off because the West Milford Township Council will vote on amending the existing chicken ordinance to allow up to 6 chickens (hens only) per household for any home in West Milford, regardless of lot size. Current law states one must have one acre of property for any farm animal. Brendan and other members have met with Assemblyman, Jay Webber, met the mayor and council, and even shook hands with Gov. Christie recently at a Town Hall meeting in Vernon Township in his tireless efforts to see this through to conclusion. Even our Memorial Day Parade float had a pro-farm theme.

Brendan has documented the club’s progress with a press book and is celebrating his success at getting this far by being at 4-H camp. New club-member Haley is raising quail and chicks with an incubator donated to the club, and will present Brendan with his very own white-capped Polish chick at the council meeting if the new ordinance is adopted. Congrats to the children’s leadership!

In other news, the 1500 plants or so that the children grew at Gail’s have arrived at the farm and are being transplanted even as we speak. Gail’s husband Randy kindly drove his tractor over and plowed, fertilized, and delivered our plants. He donated the hundreds of beans, basil, peppers and tomatoes we started. The field is green and full! Matt, who has almost finished the website, and Bobbi laid the irrigation lines and the plastic down, and many members including the Scrimgeours cleared about 20 wheelbarrows of rocks to fluff out the field. Matt and Haley took a few wasp stings, and Haley proudly made her delivery of 39 broiler cross-bred chicks to the farm! These birds are growing at a tremendous pace. I cannot believe what the children have accomplished this garden year. We got things growing! There will be farm fresh food soon. Even the lilacs have celebrated by having another litter to 8 kits!

Brendan and Matt will be wrapping up the summer at the Mustang Challenge to see our very own cowboy, Sonny Gargiulo of Natural Horsemanship, at Dream Park with his wild mustang mare, Cavalor. The purpose of the event is to showcase wild American mustangs that have been given 90 days of training. The makeover started out West and in Texas and came to NJ last year. Horse trainers along the East Coast invest their time into gentling the animals and hopefully find them new homes when they are all auctioned off.

Brendan has been following trainer Sonny Gargiulo of "Natural Horsemanship" for two years, and came out to cheer Sonny on with his mustang mare, Cavalor. They came in 4th place.

This is Brendan on his first horse ride. He says 4-H has given him the confidence to not be afraid of such a big animal now, as he was before he joined 4-H.

“Treat everyone you meet as though they are the most important person you’ll meet that day” — Roger Dawson
Filled with graduations, kiddie pools, and hot days, this summer has been eventful for our puppies and their families! In April, Alice’s puppy raisers attended her town walk! Alice is currently waiting for her forever person so she can start her working life as a Seeing Eye Dog. Fiona graduated in April and has been doing wonderfully as a Seeing Eye Dog! Harley graduated in May and is an official Seeing Eye dog, too. Congrats to all puppy raising families on a job well done.

In April, Jenny attended a baseball game at Yankee Stadium. Jenny’s trip to the Bronx started with a train ride into Penn Station, followed by walking the busy streets of NYC and a subway ride out to the Bronx. Jenny was featured on the big screen at the game! What a big day for such a little girl! Jenny did a great!

In May, our club enjoyed a great exposure outing for the puppies in Hoboken. Puppies Nonnie, Whitley, Hudson, Ursula, Inez and Jenny boarded the train in Clifton and took the train to Hoboken. Once in Hoboken the puppies practiced walking streets with sidewalk grates and moderate traffic. We stopped for lunch in the park on the pier and ended the day with a stop for some ice cream before boarding the train back to Clifton. Taking public transportation and walking streets with traffic are very important for our puppies to become accustomed to as they will be doing this often as a working Seeing Eye Dog.

June was full of graduations as three of our puppy raisers have graduated high school. Congrats to Bryan, Ethan and Mitch on graduating! Good luck in college, boys! Special note that our own Ethan Bloomer was Pequannock Township High School Class of 2013 valedictorian! All three boys were awarded scholarships from The Seeing Eye for their active years in the Puppy Raising Program.

July has been hot! Puppies Nonnie, Whitley, Hudson, Ursula and Inez enjoyed an evening out at Warwick Drive-in to see Despicable Me 2! Our club also enjoyed a town walk of Pompton Lakes recently. Complete with a walk through the streets of Pompton Lakes, a stop at the carnival, working on scary open-backed, grated stairs, and ending at the Ice Cream Station, everyone enjoyed a night out in Pompton Lakes.

Two of our club puppies have moved on to bigger and better things with their lives. George and Ursula have returned to The Seeing Eye to begin formal guide dog training. We wish them luck in their future endeavors. We cannot wait to see what the rest of the summer offers for our club!

“Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.” — Roger Caras
**Club Update — Passaic Power Paws**

The Power Paws have finally found a new meeting location! We will be meeting at the Preakness Healthcare Center in Wayne. Thanks Marycarmen for locating this site for us. And thanks to the Preakness Healthcare for allowing us to meet there. We have a few new possible members and are hoping for a few more.

We have changed our meeting nights starting in September to Monday nights.

We will be having an important informational meeting for all new and returning members on Friday, August 16 at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 4-H Office in Wayne, 1310 Route 23 North, Wayne, NJ at 7pm. Please do not bring your dogs to this meeting.

**Club Update— Teen Crusaders**

With the start of summer the Passaic County 4-H Teen Crusaders have started off strong with new club members attending the Rutgers 4-H Summer Science Program. This year 15 teens from Passaic County attended the week long program as they explored areas in science and got a firsthand experience of campus life. Those who went, including our two returners, raved about its success and how much they enjoyed the hands on aspects of the entire experience. Now that the program is over, they are all working hard as SET Ambassadors volunteering in both the Paterson Public Library and the Clifton Public Library as they work to show others how great science really is. But things are not over yet for the Passaic County Teen Crusaders. The start of August will commence our second annual Teen Community Service Week. Last year we volunteer at multiple locations and this year we are keeping the tradition alive. The week of August 5th through August 9th we will put our volunteering skills to the test at various locations such as the NJ Community Food Bank and Oasis Women’s Shelter. Teens will also participate in a park clean up, rain garden maintenance and using their creativity will be making items to be donated to St. Joseph’s Hospital. Additionally, teens will be attending the NJ State Fair in Sussex County both as volunteers and as visitors. There is a lot happening in the summer of 2013 for the Passaic County Teen Crusaders and there is even more to come!

“Blessed is the influence of one true, loving human soul on another”. — George Elliot
Passaic County Science Ambassadors

This July, 15 Passaic County teens attended the Rutgers 4-H Summer Science Program sponsored by Samsung, at Rutgers University in New Brunswick NJ. While there, teens were able to take part in various STEM related activities. For example, we had a panel of different scientists come and we were allowed to interview them; asking questions about their careers and what they do in their fields. Our days went about doing hands-on activities and learning firsthand from the scientists themselves. Afterward, we had a closing ceremony where we were able to teach back what we learned throughout the week to eager parents and guests who walked around listening to our adventures though science.

Now that the SET (Science, Engineering and Technology) Ambassadors are back home, we will go out and give back to our community. Ways that this can be done is through teaching, clean-ups, or volunteering in different places. A couple programs that SET Ambassadors are involved in are the Get Moving Get Healthy and Science Programming at local libraries where we teach younger kids different things about science through interactive activities and how to live a healthy lifestyle. Throughout the rest of the year, we will continue with different programming as a way to reach out to our community and teach them how interesting the world of science can be.

Passaic County 4-H is looking for NEW Club Leaders

It’s easy, fun, exciting and very rewarding!

4-H volunteer club leaders are an essential part of our program. All it takes is a few hours of your time, every few weeks to make an impact!!

4-H Clubs are free to focus on ANY topic so share your interest, talents, skills, and experiences with young people and watch them grow!!

If you or someone you know might be interested in becoming a leader or interested in volunteering opportunities please have them contact the 4-H Office.

“Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.” — Carl Sagan
Upcoming Events

September

☆ Labor Day (Office Closed), September 2nd
☆ NJ State 4-H Rabbit, Cavy, Small Animal, Herpetology, and Poultry Show, September 7th, Gloucester, NJ
☆ Passaic County 4-H Leaders Association Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser, September 28th, Butler, NJ
☆ Bergen County 4-H and Master Gardener's Fair, September 28th-29th

October

☆ National 4-H Week, October 7th-13th
☆ 4-H National Youth Science Day, October 9th
☆ West Milford Autumn Lights Festival, October 12th, West Milford, NJ
☆ Columbus Day (Office Closed), October 14th

November

☆ Election Day (Office Closed), November 5th
☆ Veterans Day (Office Closed), November 11th
☆ Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed), November 28th
☆ Day After Thanksgiving (Office Closed), November 29th

2013 West Milford Autumn Lights Festival

Passaic County 4-H will hold our annual 4-H Fair at the 2013 West Milford Autumn Lights Festival on Saturday, October 12, 2013. The festival will be held at Union Valley Road from Shoprite to Bearfort Plaza in West Milford from 10:00 am till 5:00 pm.

☆ Each Club will have a table to display club information and activities. (Please let the office know if you need additional tables.)
☆ Exhibit entry forms are due to your club leaders by September 25th. Entry form can be found on page 9 of the newsletter.
☆ The exhibit guide can be found on our website under fair materials or ask your club leaders for help.
☆ Set-up begins at 8am the day of the fair.
☆ Exhibits must be dropped off by 9:30am the day of the fair.
Passaic County 4-H Fundraiser

You’re invited to an Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast to support Passaic County 4-H Leader’s Association

Tickets Cost: $12.00

September 28, 2013 from 8 am - 10 am

Applebee’s - 1200 Route 23 North - Butler, NJ 07405

Contact the Passaic County 4-H office to purchase tickets or for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

NJ 4-H Camp Community Service Days: October 5th and 12th

9:00am - 2:00pm

The focus of these weekends will be winterizing the summer facilities and splitting firewood. Many of the projects will include moving food stocks, putting up storm windows, taking down the waterfront and cleaning out the boat house. We will be clearing, splitting and stacking wood for the winter. Lunch is provided.

NJ 4-H Camp Halloween Happenings October 19th 5:00pm—8:00pm

Event participants have the opportunity pick pumpkins from the camp temporary pumpkin patch, paint pumpkins, have their face painted, go on a hay ride through the woods, trick or treat from cabin to cabin, and talk to staff about what 4-H camp has to offer. 4-H club member and non-4-H members can attend. If interested in volunteering on this day by decorating a cabin for trick-or-treating please contact the NJ 4-H camp.

For more information, call (973) 948-3550 or email us at 4hcamp@njaes.rutgers.edu.

Look for the Fall Issue of 4-H Happenings in November
Passaic County 4-H Fair
Exhibit Entry Form

Completing this Exhibit Entry Form will help us determine how much space we will need for 4-H Exhibits. Please return this Exhibit Form to your 4-H Club Leader by September 25th so they can review, sign, and forward this Exhibit Entry Form to the County 4-H Office.

Name of 4-H Member (please print) __________________________________________________

Age_______  Grade_______ Check if Cloverbud – K-3rd Grade (   )

Address ___________________________________________ Phone ___________________

Name of Club ____________________________________________________________________

List 4-H Club Project Areas _________________________________________________________

List 4-H Independent Project Areas ________________________________________________

Signature of 4-H Club Leader _______________________________ Date _________________

Exhibits must result from work completed since last year’s Fair and must be the work of the 4-H club member with little help from an adult. Exhibits can be a result of club work or individual work including school assignments.

Exhibit Entry Tags will be completed when exhibits arrive at Fair.

Please remember to list all possible items you want to enter in the Fair on this form!

• If the item is not available at Fair time, it can always be scratched from this form.

• You will not be allowed to add items to this list after your 4-H Club Leader has forwarded it to the 4-H Office.

If you have any questions about completing this Exhibit Entry Form or the Entry Tags, please refer to the updated Passaic County 4-H Fair Exhibit Guide or ask your 4-H Club Leader for help.

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The Passaic County 4-H Office Is Moving

- Phone and E-mail will remain the same—973-684-4786 and passaic4h@njaes.rutgers.edu
- New Address: 1310 Route 23 North, Wayne, NJ 07470 (Behind Gary’s Wine and Ski Barn)
- Come stop by and visit our new office in October!!!
- Don’t forget to check out the Passaic County 4-H Website: passaic.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h
- Please Like Us on Facebook: Passaic-County-4-H

4-H Passaic County Newsletter

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Passaic County
4-H Youth Development Program
1310 Route 23 North
Wayne, NJ 07470
Phone: 973-684-4786   Fax: 973-754-9812
E-mail: Passaic4H@njaes.rutgers.edu

Marycarmen Kunicki
Passaic County 4-H
Program Associate

Karen Ector
4-H Community Assistant

Kenneth Faillace
Program Assistant

National 4-H Website: http://4-h.org
New Jersey 4-H: http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF PASSAIC COUNTY

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-13, on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. For additional information, contact: 973-684-4786 or nj4h.rutgers.edu. Cooperative Extension encourages individuals with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you need special accommodations, have questions about physical access, or require alternate means for program information, please contact your local Extension Office. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 848-932-3583. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 848-932-3583.